



NEWS RELEASE

Office of the United States Attorney
Eastern District of Texas

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NACOGDOCHES BUSINESS OWNER INDICTED ON FEDERAL FIREARMS VIOLATIONS

(Lufkin, Texas) A 72-year-old Nacogdoches man appeared in federal court today on firearms charges in the Eastern District of Texas. **DON BECK**, owner of the 59 Motel in Nacogdoches, entered a not guilty plea to firearms violations before United States Magistrate Judge Earl Hines today.

According to information presented in court, on December 13, 2005, search warrants were executed at Beck's residence and the 59 Motel in which numerous firearms were seized. A federal grand jury returned a six count indictment on January 10, 2006, charging Beck with multiple counts of selling a firearm to a felon and possession of an unregistered firearm.

It is important to note a defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law. A Grand Jury indictment is not evidence of guilt. If convicted, Beck faces up to ten years in federal prison and a fine of up to \$250,000. A trial has been scheduled for March 14, 2006.

This case is being investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, & Explosives and the Nacogdoches Police Department. Assistant U.S. Attorney Lisa Flournoy is prosecuting the case.

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